



**US Army Corps
of Engineers.**
Jacksonville District

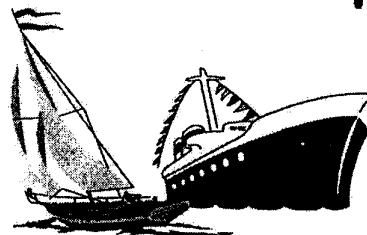


904-232-2116

NOTICE TO NAVIGATION INTERESTS



In reply refer to:
CESAJ-CO-OM
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019



CESAJ-CO-OP (1130)

24 September 2002

NOTICE TO NAVIGATION INTERESTS

KISSIMMEE RIVER NAVIGATION CHANNEL

1. Mariners are hereby notified that the extreme drawdown of Lake Tohopekaliga (Toho) is scheduled to begin 1 November 2002. Beginning 1 November 2002, Lake Toho will be slowly lowered to 49.0 ft NGVD by 15 February 2003 (the 1 November 2002 regulation schedule elevation for Lake Toho is 55.0 ft NGVD). Beginning 15 November 2002, Lakes Kissimmee, Hatchineha and Cypress will be slowly lowered to 49.0 ft NGVD by 15 February 2003 (the 15 November 2002 regulation schedule elevation for Lakes Kissimmee, Hatchineha, and Cypress is 52.5 ft NGVD). From 16 February to 1 June 2003, Lake Toho may be lowered to 48.5 ft NGVD and Lakes Kissimmee, Hatchineha, and Cypress may be to lowered 48.0 ft NGVD to provide water to downstream lakes or the Kissimmee River.
2. Beginning 1 June 2003, Lakes Toho, Kissimmee, Hatchineha and Cypress will be managed in an attempt to return them to their existing regulation schedules by 1 September. During this period, releases from these lakes may be made to provide water to downstream lakes or the Kissimmee River. However, the releases will be limited so that the lakes are generally allowed to rise. The rate of these lakes' refilling will depend on rainfall. Under normal conditions, Lake Toho should return to its normal regulation range by fall 2003.
3. Adverse impacts of the Lake Toho extreme drawdown will include a temporary decrease in navigability in Lake Toho and other lakes down through Lake Kissimmee resulting in decreased boater access to the lakes from their perimeters. These impacts will begin around December 2002, with increased access beginning sometime after refilling commences in June 2003. Access in the main bodies of Lakes Toho, Kissimmee, Hatchineha and Cypress will be impacted as lower

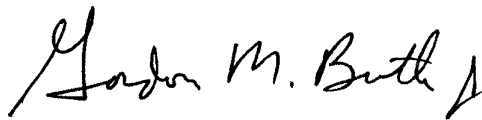
water levels will limit recreational boating. However, the proposed drawdown stages for Lakes Kissimmee, Hatchineha and Cypress are at or relatively close to the low pool (end of May) stages in the existing Lake Kissimmee regulation schedule.

4. The lock structure at S-61 normally permits passage of vessels with a draft of less than 6 ft. The lock has invert elevations of 43.0 feet NGVD. During the proposed drawdown, and for sometime after refilling commences in June 2003, there would be times when water levels at the lock are low enough that the available navigational depth through the lock is reduced to approximately a depth of 3 feet.

5. It is possible that during the Lake Toho extreme drawdown or refill periods there would be a temporary decrease in navigability on the restored section of the Kissimmee River between S-65A and S-65C.

6. Beginning 1 September 2003, Lakes Toho, Kissimmee, Hatchineha and Cypress will be regulated according to their existing regulation schedules.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gordon M. Butler, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

GORDON M. BUTLER, JR.
Chief, Construction-Operations
Division